

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fisher's Land, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Madam or Sir:

0589 '99 MAY 12 A9:19

The current FDA labeling requirement for food products treated with radiation should not be permitted to expire. Although this type of food preservation has been deemed "safe", the technology has not been in use long enough to determine all long term and /or minor effect on public health, particularly in the case of more sensitive individuals.

Small amounts of the carcinogen, benzene, are produced in irradiated meats. Fruits and vegetables lose some nutrients in the process.

It has long been the basic foundation of food and drug regulation the people have a right to know what they are putting into their bodies.

This labeling should remain prominent and should be on the front of the package.

Sincerely,



Lester F. Gillespie

98N-1038

C1470

Lester F Gillespie
439 Valley Dr.
Floyd, VA 24091



Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville MD 20852

20852/0001

